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Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, source of righteousness, You are always on the side of what is right. We confess that there are times we assume we know what is right without seeking Your guidance.

Lord, give us the humility to be more concerned about being on Your side than recruiting You to be on our side. Clear our minds so that we can think Your thoughts. Help us to wait on You, to listen patiently for Your voice, to seek Your will through concentrated study and reflection. May discussion move us deeper into truth and debate be the blending of varied aspects of Your revelations communicated through others. Free us from the assumption that we have an exclusive on Your guidance and that those who disagree with us must also be against You.

Above all else, we commit this week to seek what is best for our beloved Nation. Grant the Senators the greatness of being on Your side and the delight of being there together. In the name of Christ, Your righteousness name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable PAT ROBERTS, a Senator from the State of Kansas, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Kansas.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume debate on the China PNTR legislation. Under the order, Senator BYRD will debate his amendment in regard to subsidies for 1 hour. Following the debate on the BYRD amendment, Senator THOMPSON will be recognized to offer his China nonproliferation amendment. Further amendments may be offered during today's session, however, any votes during today's session ordered with respect to those amendments will be scheduled to occur at 9:30 in the morning on Tuesday. It is hoped that the Senate can complete action on this important trade bill as early as possible so that the Senate may begin consideration of those appropriations bills still available for action.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

TO AUTHORIZE EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4444, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4444) to authorize extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China, and to establish a framework for relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

Pending:

Wellstone amendment No. 4118, to require that the President certify to Congress that the People's Republic of China has taken certain actions with respect to ensuring human rights protection.

Wellstone amendment No. 4119, to require that the President certify to Congress that the People's Republic of China is in compliance with certain Memoranda of Understanding regarding prohibition on import and export of prison labor products.

Wellstone amendment No. 4120, to require that the President certify to Congress that the People's Republic of China has responded to inquiries regarding certain people who have been detained or imprisoned and has made substantial progress in releasing from prison people incarcerated for organizing independent trade unions.

Wellstone amendment No. 4121, to strengthen the rights of workers to associate, organize and strike.

Smith (of New Hampshire) amendment No. 4129, to require that the Congressional-Executive Commission monitor the cooperation of the People's Republic of China with respect to POW/MIA issues, improvement in the areas of forced abortions, slave labor, and organ harvesting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

I believe there is a 1-hour time agreement on this amendment, in accordance with the usual form.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. BYRD. That allows me 30 minutes. I may not require all of that time today, Mr. President. I do have a second amendment on which there was an agreement, I believe last week, Thursday or Friday, which would limit the time to 3 hours to be equally divided in accordance with the usual form.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I wonder if I might offer that amendment today but take no time on it but just to be sure that it is offered and before the Senate? I would prefer that the final action be taken on that amendment following action on this first amendment on which I will be talking today. Final action at such time as the two leaders may agree.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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